(d) Case is yet under investigation with the Police authority.

MSTD facilities in east Godavari District

1589. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of various places in Andhra Pradesh, particularly in West and East Godavari Districts which were given MSTD facility in 1993;

(b) what are the names of places for which the SMTD facility was withdrawn or made in operational;

(c) whether the emphasis will be given to rural areas in Andhra Pradesh in this regard; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to restore MSTD or one way STD facility to such places and raise the level of efficiency and reliability in operation of MSTD facility in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Nil, Sir. All the Manual Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh have been automatised and hence provision of MSTD facility does not arise.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Removal of subsidy on post card

1590. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that investigations prove that 65 per cent of post cards are utilised by businessmen for commercial purposes or by people who are comfortably off;

(b) if so, what is the rationality of giving subsidy on post cards;

(c) what is the actual cost of a post card; and the amount of annual loss suffered by Government in this respect;

(d) whether there is any proposal to remove subsidy on post cards; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir.

(b) In view of part (a), reply is not necessary.

(c) Actual cost of a post card is 129.98 paise per unit and the annual loss is Rs. 73.79 crores.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

दिल्ली और बम्बई में एम०टी० एन० एल० में भ्रष्टाचार

1591. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह** : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि महानगर टेलीफोन निगम बनाने के बाद दिल्ली टेलीफोन एवं बंबई टेलीफोन में भ्रष्टाचार बढ़ा है ;

(ख) अगर हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) महानगर टेलीफोन निगम में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार के संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० वी० रंगैया नायडू) : (क) और (ख) टेलीफोन नेटवर्क और सुविधाओं में पिछले 7 वर्षों में तीव्रता से विस्तार हुआ है और इसके परिणाम स्वरूप सम्भवतः कदाचार के मार्गों में वृद्धि हुई है ।

(ग) सरकार ने प्रतिक्रिया के रूप में भ्रष्टाचार को खत्म करने के उपायों को निम्नलिखित ढंग से प्रारम्भ एवं कार्यान्वित किया है :—

1. टेलीफोन राजस्व की चोरी से निपटने के लिए मेट्रो-शहरों के लिए सी0बी0आई0 में विशेष सेलों का सृजन करके ;

2. विभागीय सतर्कता मशीनरी द्वारा संवेदनशील स्थानों की अचानक जांचों का तीव्र करण करके ;

3. भारतीय तार अधिनियम में उचित प्रावधानों को लागू करके कदाचार के लाभकारियों को निवारक दण्ड दिलवा कर ;

4. कदाचार में शामिल विभागीय कर्मचारियों को तीव्रता एवं निवारक ढंग से दण्डित करके ;

OCB exchange given by Alcatel of France

1592. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the contract for of 40,000 lines of OCB based exchange through the backdoor was given to Alcatel of France even though its prototype exchange is yet to pass the validation tests;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that this action of the Government would violate the sanctity of tendering system;

(d) if so, what is the justifications on the part of the Government to award the contract to Alcatel of France;

(e) whether it is also a fact that Government has decided to give a tax bonanza to prospective suppliers of exchanges; and

(f) if so, how much revenues the Government would lose every year, and the justifications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Conversion of Manual exchange into electronic exchange in sector 6, Faridabad. Haryana

1593. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been considerable delay in converting the present telephone exchange located in Sector 6, Faridabad from manual into electronic exchange;

(b) if so, the reasons for not executing the work according to schedule; and

(c) what is the present progress in the matter and by when all the connections are expected to be made electronic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir. There is a 2000 lines automatic strowger exchange working at present at Sector-6, Faridabad.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) A new 2000 lines electronic exchange has been planned to be commissioned during 1993-94. This electronic exchange will be in addition to the existing exchange.